SITE DESCRIPTION

Site Name and Location

County: St. Clair
District: S.E. Michigan

Winchester Disposal
3521 Petit Street
Port Huron, Michigan 48060

Background Information and Site History

The 18 acre site was operated until 1983 as an illegal landfill. Drums, tires and general refuse were disposed of on this site, which is surrounded by wetlands. In 1988, a tire fire, which consumed an estimated 100,000 tires, was put out by the use of bulldozers and 11,000 cyds of sand. An underground fire on the north portion of the property has yet to be officially declared extinguished. From May 1990 to September 1990, a FY89 Bond funded surface cleanup removed 286 full drums and 1336 empty drums, shredded over 180,000 tires for onsite disposal, and installed 3 monitoring wells. In October 1990, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers began operations to cover the tire shreds and other upland portions of the site with dredge material (tested clean) from the Black River.

Enforcement Status

In 1978, the owner-operator of the site was prosecuted and ordered to pay for the Michigan Department of Natural Resources funded removal of 100 drums of "Scrap Phenolic Resins". In 1983, the owner-operator died. Other Potential Responsible Parties (PRPs) include a private partnership, who did not respond to the PRP notice letter, but signed an access agreement. In June 1990, the PRP allowed the parcel to tax-revert to the State of Michigan. A second PRP responded to the notice letter by stating that they no longer owned the property in question.

Act 307/Bond Funding

In 1988, twenty-seven thousand one hundred dollars ($27,100) of Act 307 funds were authorized to suppress the fire. In FY89, Bond funds in the amount of four hundred thousand dollars ($400,000) were appropriated for surface cleanup at this site.

FY92 Proposed Action

Three hundred thousand dollars ($300,000) is requested to conduct a remedial investigation/feasibility study to determine the extent of groundwater and surface water contamination on and off site as well as to determine if any more point sources of contamination exist.

February 1991